

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 IGA-02

MC-02 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 OES-06 FEA-01 INT-05

COME-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /080 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:COCECIL:SEB

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:JTWINAM

H:RFLATEN(SUBS)

NEA - STERNER

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O 280034Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 240346

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR SA US

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON CONGRESSIONAL ARMS SALES ACTIONS;
PRESS REPORTS OF OIL EMBARGO FOLLOWING ANTI-BOYCOTT
LEGISLATION

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON TESTIFIED THIS MORNING
BEFORE THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE CON-
CERNING PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE SALE OF MAVERICK
MISSILES TO SAUDI ARABIA. SAUDI EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE
WAS IN ATTENDANCE. AFTER SUBMITTING PREPARED STATEMENT
FOR THE RECORD, MR. ATHERTON RESPONDED TO MEMBERS'
QUESTIONS, AND URGED THAT MEMBERS VIEW PROPOSED SALE IN
TERMS OF TOTAL CONTEXT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA.
TODAY'S TESTIMONY WAS ANOTHER ELEMENT IN THE VERY STRONG
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AND ACTIVE POSITION TAKEN BY THE ADMINISTRATION IN SUPPORT

OF ALL PROPOSED SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA, AND FOLLOWED APPEARANCES BY ATHERTON AND UNDER SECRETARY HABIB BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE RESPECTIVELY. A QUORUM WAS NOT PRESENT FOR TODAY'S HIRC HEARING; THEREFORE, THE COMMITTEE WAS UNABLE TO TAKE ACTION ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE. THE COMMITTEE MAY ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE ANOTHER MEETING TO MOVE THE RESOLUTION FROM THE COMMITTEE TO THE FLOOR. SINCE MINORITY MEMBERS ARE

ALLOWED THREE DAYS TO FILE A MINORITY REPORT PRIOR TO MOVING A RESOLUTION TO THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE, THERE IS NOW A CHANCE THAT THE RESOLUTION WILL NOT REACH THE FLOOR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE THIRTY DAY REVIEW PERIOD.

2. SENATOR SPARKMAN WON UNANIMOUS CONSENT ON THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE THIS MORNING TO RECOMMIT THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL TO THE COMMITTEE, AND SECRETARY HAS BEEN ASKED TO TESTIFY BEFORE COMMITTEE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 28. WHILE IT IS TOO EARLY TO PREDICT THE OUTCOME OF MOVE TO RECOMMIT, IT DOES POSE THE POSSIBILITY OF A SECOND VOTE WITHIN THE COMMITTEE IN WHICH THE RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE MAY FAIL. (FYI. THE SENATE IS NOT BOUND BY THE THREE DAY MINORITY REPORT RULE. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT THE RESOLUTION COULD BE APPROVED ON THE SENATE FLOOR, BUT IF THE HOUSE IS UNABLE TO COMPLETE ACTION BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS THURSDAY, THE SALE WILL GO THROUGH.)

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON TOOK ADVANTAGE OF A QUESTION TO COMMENT ON A WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED THIS MORNING IN WHICH IT WAS ALLEGED THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD THREATENED TO IMPOSE A NEW OIL EMBARGO AGAINST THE UNITED STATES IF CONGRESS ENACTS LEGISLATION AIMED AT WEAKENING THE ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL. THE ARTICLE DATED IN CAIRO, UNDER THE BYLINE THOMAS A. LIPMANN, QUOTED A MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY SOURCE AS SAYING SUCH A WARNING HAD BEEN CONVEYED TO AMERICAN OFFICIALS BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRINCE SAUD BIN FAISAL, NOW IN THE UNITED STATES. MR. ATHERTON STATED THAT HE HAD SPOKEN THIS MORNING WITH THE SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR IN NEW YORK WHO CONFIRMED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD MADE NO SUCH THREAT.

4. LATER SEPTEMBER 27 PRINCE SAUD IN NEW YORK ISSUED STATEMENT DENYING MENA/POST REPORT. TEXT SEPTTEL.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARP:COCECIL:ACW

APPROVED BY:NEA/ARP:JWTWINAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT SECSTATE 240346 ACTION JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE SEP 28

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 240346

E.O. 11652: N/A

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LEGISLATION

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON TESTIFIED THIS MORNING BEFORE THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE SALE OF MAVERICK MISSILES TO SAUDI ARABIA. SAUDI EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE WAS IN ATTENDANCE. AFTER SUBMITTING PREPARED STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD, MR. ATHERTON RESPONDED TO MEMBERS' QUESTIONS, AND URGED THAT MEMBERS VIEW PROPOSED SALE IN TERMS OF TOTAL CONTEXT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA. TODAY'S TESTIMONY WAS ANOTHER ELEMENT IN THE VERY STRONG AND ACTIVE POSITION TAKEN BY THE ADMINISTRATION IN SUPPORT OF ALL PROPOSED SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA, AND FOLLOWED APPEARANCES BY ATHERTON AND UNDER SECRETARY HABIB BEFORE

THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE RESPECTIVELY. A QUORUM WAS NOT PRESENT FOR TODAY'S HIRC HEARING; THEREFORE, THE COMMITTEE WAS UNABLE TO TAKE ACTION ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE. THE COMMITTEE MAY ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE ANOTHER MEETING TO MOVE THE RESOLUTION FROM THE COMMITTEE TO THE FLOOR. SINCE MINORITY MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED THREE DAYS TO FILE A MINORITY REPORT PRIOR TO MOVING A RESOLUTION TO THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE, THERE IS NOW A CHANCE THAT THE RESOLUTION WILL NOT REACH THE FLOOR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE THIRTY DAY REVIEW PERIOD.

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RM LATER SEPTEMBER 27 PRINCE SAUD IN NEW YORK ISSUED
STATEMENT DENYING MENA/POST REPORT. TEXT SEPTTEL. KISSINER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PFOR, MASS, US, SA, (ATHERTON, ALFRED L JR)
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
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